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General Assembly

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Fifty-ninth session
Second Committee

Organization of work of the Second Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Second Committee will be listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee (A/C.2/59/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/59/100).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/59/250) and the availability of documentation. The number of meetings suggested for the general discussion of the agenda items allocated to the Second Committee is based on past experience.

3. Pursuant to paragraph 4, subparagraphs (e) to (g) of section D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the following items and sub-items have been allocated to the Second Committee: "Information and communication technologies for development"; "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions" (for annual consideration); "Towards global partnerships" (every other year); and "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: participation of volunteers, 'White Helmets', in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development" (every three years).

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List of documents

4. Attention is drawn to the documents submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Second Committee contained in the draft programme of work, which provides a full picture of the scope of the Committee's work programme.

Length of statements

5. The Second Committee, in the past, decided to limit statements on all agenda items, with the exception of the general debate, to 7 minutes and to limit statements during the general debate to 15 minutes.

Practices and working methods

6. The Second Committee, in implementing General Assembly resolution 58/316, in particular paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of section C of the annex, shall utilize or expand the practice of interactive debates and introduce the practice of "question time".

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

7. Taking into account the availability of conference services for the Main Committees of the General Assembly, an average of seven formal meetings a week have been scheduled for the Second Committee. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In this connection, the Assembly decided to remind delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement of the presence of at least one quarter of the members of the Committee to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Informal consultations

8. In view of the financial measures affecting conference services, and as indicated in the programme of work, some of the formal meetings allocated to the Second Committee will be utilized for informal consultations under the chairmanship of the Bureau members of the Committee so as to ensure full servicing of those consultations. In accordance with the established practice, informal consultations will be used for expressing general observations on the proposals and for adopting them ad referendum. All drafting will be done at the informal "informals" consultations (without interpretation or other services) and will be conducted by the appointed coordinators/facilitators.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

9. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (c) of section D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in plenary.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

10. Bearing in mind the number of meetings available to the Second Committee, it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 7 December 2004 for the conclusion of its work.

Annex

Draft programme of work of the Second Committee

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
Week of 13-17 September	
Thursday, 16 September	
10 a.m.	
Organization of work	
Week of 4-8 October	
Monday, 4 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
General debate	
Tuesday, 5 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
General debate (*continued*)	
Wednesday, 6 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
General debate (*concluded*)	
Week of 11-15 October	
Tuesday, 12 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 83 **Macroeconomic policy questions**	**Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the first phase and progress in the preparations for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/59/80-E/2004/61) (see also under item 44)**
	Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/155-E/2004/96)
(b) International financial system and development	**Report of the Secretary-General on the international financial system and development (A/59/218)**

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
(c) External debt crisis and development	Report of the Secretary-General on the external debt crisis and development (A/59/219)
Wednesday, 13 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 84 **Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development**	Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (New York, 26 April 2004) (A/59/92-E/2004/73 and Add.1 and 2) Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/59/270) Note by the Secretary-General on innovative sources of financing for development (A/59/272) Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/155-E/2004/96)
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 83, 83 (b) and (c)	
Thursday, 14 October	
3 p.m.	
Item 86 **Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly**	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (A/59/198) Note by the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (A/59/382)
Friday, 15 October	
10 a.m.	
Item 86 (*continued*)	
1 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 84	

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
3 p.m.	
Informal consultations on items 83, 83 (b) and (c), and 84	
Week of 18-22 October	
Monday, 18 October	
10 a.m.	
Item 85	
Sustainable development	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eighth special session, containing reports on the work of the Environmental Management Group (29-31 March 2004, Jeju Island, Republic of Korea) (A/59/25, Supplement No. 25)
	Report of the Secretary-General on establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/59/262)
	Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (A/59/81-E/2004/63)
(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/59/220)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources (A/59/167)
(b) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (A/59/173)
(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	Report of the Secretary-General on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon (A/59/228)

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind	Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity (also under sub-items (e) and (f)) (A/59/197)
(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa	Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity (also under sub-items (d) and (f)) (A/59/197)
(f) Convention on Biological Diversity	Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity (also under sub-items (d) and (e)) (A/59/197)
(g) United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development	No advance documentation has been requested.

3 p.m.

Observance of World Food Day*

Informal consultations on items 83, 83 (b) and (c), and 84 (*continued*)

6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 86

Tuesday, 19 October

3 p.m.

Items 85, 85 (a) through (g) (*continued*)

Wednesday, 20 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Items 85 and 85 (a) through (g) (*continued*)

Thursday, 21 October

6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 85 and 85 (a) through (g)

* Observance of World Food Day will start at 2 p.m.

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
Week of 25-29 October	
Monday, 25 October	
10 a.m. and 3. p.m.	
Informal consultations on items 85, 85 (a) through (g), and 86	
Tuesday, 26 October	
3 p.m.	
Informal consultations on items 85, 85 (a) through (g), and 86 (*continued*)	
Wednesday, 27 October	
10 a.m.	
Action on draft proposals under items 83, 83 (b) and (c), and 84	
Thursday, 28 October	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations on items 85, 85 (a) through (g) and 86	
Friday, 29 October	
10 a.m.	
Action on draft proposais under item 86	
Item 87 **Globalization and interdependence**	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of UNIDO on industrial development cooperation (also under item 91 (c)) (A/59/138)
	Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/155-E/2004/196)
(a) Globalization and interdependence	Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and interdependence (A/59/312)
(b) International migration and development	Report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/59/325)

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
(c) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin	Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/59/203)
(d) Culture and development	Note by the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/249 on culture and development (A/59/202)
(e) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy	Report of the Secretary-General on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (A/59/301)
3 p.m.	
Items 87 and 87 (a) through (e) *(continued)*	
Week of 1-5 November	
Monday, 1 November	
9.30 a.m.*	
Item 83 (a) **Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development (in conjunction with item 109 (Programme planning)****	Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fourth session (A/59/16, chap. II, sect. C)
	Proposed strategic framework for 2006-2007 (Programme 10) (A/59/6)
2.30 p.m.***	
Item 83 **Macroeconomic policy questions**	
(a) International trade and development	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-third executive session
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-fourth executive session
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-fifth executive session

* Starting the week of 1 November to 11 November, all morning meetings of the Second Committee will be from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., in observance of Ramadan.

** See A/C.2/59/1.

*** Starting the week of 1 November to 11 November, all afternoon meetings of the Second Committee will be from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., in observance of Ramadan.

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-first special session
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its fifty-first executive session (4-15 October 2004)
	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its eleventh session, held in Sao Paolo, Brazil, from 13 to 18 June 2004
	Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development and on developments in the multilateral trading system (A/59/305)
(d) Commodities	**Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects (A/59/304)**

6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 87 and 87 (a) through (c)

Tuesday, 2 November

2.30 p.m.

***Item 83 and 83 (a) and (d)** (continued)*

Wednesday, 3 November

10 a.m.

United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities

3 p.m.

United Nations/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme

6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 83 and 83 (a) and (d)

Thursday, 4 November

9.30 a.m.

Action on draft proposals under item 85 and 85 (a) through (g)

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
Item 90 **Operational activities for development**	
(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system	**Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (also under item 100 of the Third Committee) (A/59/135)**
(b) Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	**Report of the Secretary-General containing preliminary statistical data on operational activities for development for 2003** **Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2002 (A/59/84-E/2004/53)** **Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/59/85-E/2004/68)**
2.30 p.m.	
Items 90 and 90 (a) and (b) *(continued)*	
Friday, 5 November	
9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.	
Informal consultations on items 87, 87 (a) through (e), 45, and 83 and 83 (a) and (d)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 90	
Week of 8-12 November	
Monday, 8 November	
9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.	
Item 39 **Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance**	
(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions	**Report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation for countries and regions (Angola, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, Serbia and Montenegro, Somalia, Tajikistan) (A/59/293)**

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
	Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique (A/59/86-E/2004/69)
Tuesday, 9 November	
9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.	
Item 88 **Groups of countries in special situations**	
(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	**Annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/59/94-E/2004/77)**
(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation	**Report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action (A/59/208)**
Wednesday, 10 November	
9.30 a.m.	
Item 91 **Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**	**Report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/59/89-E/2004/21)**
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 88 and 88 (a) and (b)	
Thursday, 11 November	
9.30 a.m.	
Informal consultations under item 90	
2.30 p.m.	
Informal consultations under items 88 and 88 (a) and (b)	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 39 (b) and 91	

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
Friday, 12 November	
Eid Al-Fitr — United Nations holiday	
Week of 15-19 November	
Monday, 15 November	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations under items 39 (b), 88, 88 (a) and (b), 90 and 91	
3 p.m.	
Action on draft proposals under items 44, 83, 83 (a) and (d), 87, and 87 (a) through (e)	
Item 89	
Eradication of poverty and other development issues	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/59/207)
	Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/155-E/2004/96)
(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) and on the International Year of Microcredit, 2005 (A/59/326)
(b) Women in development	Report of the Secretary-General on the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* (A/59/287)
(c) Industrial development cooperation	Report transmitting the report of the Director-General of UNIDO on industrial development cooperation (also under item 89) (A/59/138)
Tuesday, 16 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 89 and 89 (a) through (c) *(continued)*	

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
3 p.m.	
Item 44 **Information and communication technologies for development**	Report of the Secretary-General on information and communication technologies for development: progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/295 Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the first phase and progress in the preparations for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/59/80-E/2004/61 and Corr.1) (see also item 83)
Item 92 **Training and research**	
(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research	Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/59/14, Supplement No. 14) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/59/230)
(b) United Nations University	Report of the Council of the United Nations University (A/59/31, Supplement No. 31)
Wednesday, 17 November	
10 a.m.	
Action on all draft proposals	
Thursday, 18 November	
Launch of the International Year of Microcredit	
6 p.m. — Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 44, 89, 89 (a) through (c), and 92	
Friday, 19 November	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations on all outstanding issues	
Week of 22-26 November	
Monday, 22 November	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations on all outstanding issues	

Item to be considered	*Document title and symbol*
Wednesday, 24 November	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations on all outstanding issues	
Thursday, 25 November	
Thanksgiving Day — United Nations holiday	
Week of 29-30 November, 1-3 and 6-7 December	
Monday, 29 November	
10 a.m.	
Informal consultations and action on all outstanding proposals	
Wednesday, 1 December	
3 p.m.	
Informal consultations and action on all outstanding proposals	
Friday, 3 December	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Informal consultations and action on all outstanding proposals	
Monday, 6 December	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Informal consultations and action on all outstanding proposals	
Tuesday, 7 December	
3 p.m.	
Conclusion of the work of the Second Committee	